

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXV, Number 17

Edited by Don Ruthig

May 6th, 2014

FROM THE TREASURER

Why we need a traditional Anglican academic library

SUBDEACON Wiley Hawks buttonholed the Rector last week to ask the \$64,000 question: "Why are we building a second floor office when it would be much more convenient to expand at ground level?"

"And, while we are about it, rather than a library, why don't we spend the money putting in a commercial kitchen? It would pay for itself if we rented it out."

They were good and sensible questions. It would certainly be much more convenient for us to expand at ground level. And, possibly, a commercial kitchen, if rented out, would pay for itself.

The trouble is that Baltimore County building regulations will not permit us to expand at ground level beyond the current "footprint" of the church buildings. In practice, it means that we could add two more arches to the sanctuary, a major project that is hard to justify on the basis of present needs.

Theoretically, we could also widen the parish hall by a few feet, but this, again, would be a major construction project, involving, among other things an entirely reconfigured roof. This leaves us with only one practicable way to obtain more work-space — building upwards.

As to the matter of a commercial kitchen: The county has expressly rejected the idea, not once but twice. It was turned down the first time back in 1992 when we first applied for planning permission to build the church. All we were allowed was a cubbyhole where the vestment chest now stands with just enough room for an oven and a sink.

We next applied for permission to put in a commercial grade kitchen when we extended the parish hall. It was again rejected. All we were able to negotiate was permission to install our current "warming kitchen."

It is, however, worth pointing out that, for a parish church, operating a commercial kitchen is almost prohibitively expensive. They are very tightly regulated. Health regulations, for example, require a licensed food service manager to be present when they are in use.

The reasons we have embarked on this project are twofold. First, the present church office is decidedly crowded with two priests, two deacons and a treasurer all living cheek by jowl.

The new extension will provide sufficient space to accommodate the clergy, as well provide the treasurer with the small private office needed to preserve financial confidentiality.

Second, if St. Stephen's is to continue and prosper it will need to invest in clergy education. Sadly, the mainline seminaries — caught up as they are in "social justice" issues and other fashionable political concerns — have been doing a rather less than adequate job in this regard.

The seminary graduates we have encountered have typically been woefully weak in such subjects as Holy Scripture, dogmatic theology, church history and liturgics — in what one might imagine to be the tools of their trade.

This leaves us with little choice but to provide at the very least a "remedial education" for men applying to us for Holy Orders in the Anglican tradition. Indeed, should traditional academic standards continue to decline at the mainline seminaries, we shall have no alternative but to rely entirely on our own resources.

None of this should come as a surprise. The primary reason for the founding of this parish was the Episcopal Church's deliberate abandonment of traditional Anglican scholarship, values, teachings and worship practices. This cannot be done without adequately educated clergy and lay leaders.

A prerequisite for this is a theological library containing the classic works that form the backbone of Anglican doctrinal scholarship.

The Vestry has tried to approach the project as cost effectively as possible. The cost will come to some \$100,000. This includes the installation of sliding doors to open the Cadwalader Room to the courtyard garden — a long cherished plan.

Calendar of Events

Weekly Activities at St Stephen's

Mondays, 6.30 PM: Bridge Club at the home of Fr. Mike
Tuesdays, 7.00 AM: Breakfast Fellowship at the Nautilus Diner

Thursdays, 10.00 AM: Knitting Circle meets in Quimby Hall

Fridays, 10.30 AM: Bible Study in the Cadwalader Room

Special Events

Tuesday, May 13th, 7.00 PM: Parish Life Committee Meets in the Cadwalader Room

Thursday, May 15th, 2.00 PM: Afternoon Tea

Wednesday, May 21st, 12.15 PM: The Ladies Who Lunch at the Macaroni Grill

Sunday, May 25th, 10:30 AM: Annual Parish Meeting in the Cadwalader Room

The Vestry believes now is the right time to build because it is unlikely that construction costs and mortgage rates will ever be cheaper. To reduce the overall expense, the wardens and treasurer have renegotiated a substantially lower interest rate for our mortgage.

This, in practice, means that the project will not greatly increase our overheads. It will enable our modest endowment to continue growing, and the contributions to our building fund will further reduce our mortgage. **WILLIAM HAWKINS**

FROM THE PEOPLE'S WARDEN

[NOTE: This is the first of a series of three reports in preparation for the annual Parish Meeting on May 25th. Next week the Treasurer will present his report followed by the Rector's Report.]

St. Stephen's Parish Church - 20 years later

2014 is a year of anniversaries for St. Stephen's. Twenty-five years ago, in 1989, Father Guy Hawtin answered the call to become Rector of this parish, joining a cadre of dedicated founders intent on maintaining traditional Episcopal worship in Baltimore.

Much of Fr Guy's energy during the first five years of his tenure was expended working with the founders to find a permanent home for the parish - to literally build a church. Twenty years ago, in September of 1994, the Most Rev. John C. Gramley, Presiding Bishop of the United Episcopal Church of North America, officiated as the sound of trumpets opened the Service for the Dedication of St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church.

As the parish grew so did the building. The front of the church, originally a covered porch, was enclosed to provide the space now dedicated to the memory of Tom Cadwalader. In 2006 the Parish Hall, Sacristy, bathrooms and kitchen facilities were expanded, and a "mezzanine" office created for the Rector and clerical staff.

And this year we look forward to literally "raising the roof," adding a new office for the clerics and the treasurer and establishing an extensive Anglican academic library and meeting room.

Responsibility for maintenance and care of the building and church properties has been faithfully attended to by the People's Wardens - initially Jack vanRoden and most recently by Paul Douglas and Gordon Turner. The fine condition of our facilities is a tribute to their stewardship throughout the years.

St. Stephen's has always been blessed with parishioners willing to jump in and do what needs to be done. As if by magic the Sanctuary gets cleaned, lawns cut, bathrooms sparkle, paint gets touched up and a myriad of other small maintenance jobs are handled.

All by volunteers. In fact, the only service for which we routinely contract is snowplowing.

Last fall significant repairs were made to the south exterior wall of the Sanctuary. Years of water intrusion had rotted the panels under the windows along the foundation line and water was beginning to intrude

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**

May 11th, 2014

8.00 AM, & 9.15 AM AM HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: I St. Peter 2:11-18

The Gospel: St. John 16:16-22

11.00 AM CHORAL MATTINS

The Psalter: 36:5, 138

The First Lesson: II Samuel 12:15b-23

The Second Lesson: St. John 16:16-22

into the building. With the help of Brock Johnson and Martha "the hammer" Miller the rotted wood was removed, new panels and cedar battens installed, gutters re-hung with new brackets, and all was painted.

Also significant this year was the re-lamping of the Sanctuary with energy efficient LED lighting. Through a program of rebates available through BGE all of the lamps in the Sanctuary and the outside floodlights were replaced at a final cost of about \$180. These new lamps consume about 20% of the power of the old lamps and will save us literally hundreds of dollars per year in energy costs.

A special thank you to John Woodall for his invaluable help in this project. He not only provided his electrical expertise, wit and humor, but also provided a hydraulic hi-lift to reach the lamps some 30 feet above the floor. And, the hi-lift was great fun to operate!

This coming September we will be re-dedicating our church during the visit of Bishop John Vaughan, and so we will work hard to make it sparkle as it did 20 years ago.

Next week new carpet will be installed in the Chancel area of the Sanctuary, replacing the well-worn and wax speckled carpet in the area around the altar.

And we anticipate having the library and office addition done in time for the Bishop's visit.

Thank you to all who have jumped in with your time, talent and, sometimes, money. Through your stewardship we are well prepared for the next twenty years. **DON RUTHIG**

A final Garden Party Note

Please note that all flower entries should arrive no later than 10:00 am on Saturday morning tagged with the title of the exhibit, and the name of the exhibitor.

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Plan to join us on May 21st

THIS month the Ladies Who Lunch will be meeting at **12.15pm** at the Macaroni Grill on Padonia Road on Wednesday, May 21st. Why not join us for a convivial get-together over a delicious meal? Good food and good fellowship -- what more could you want? To reserve your place call Joyce Perlberg at 410-252-2680.

✠ PARISH PRAYER LIST ✠

OUR Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List as well as the guests of the Joseph Richey Hospice & Dr. Bob's Place. To add a name to the prayer list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the parish office at 410 560 6776.

RECOVERY: Fr Guy✠, Fr. Mike✠, Carolyn, Hilarie, Vivian, Jack, Suzie, John, Rodney, Hamilton, Donald, Annie, Evelyn, Cal, Finton, Fran, Tracey, Linda Lou, Edie, Adele, Baby Charlie, Angie, Oona, Cary, Janna, Martina, Leela, Bobby Sally, Isabelle, Julie, Ray, Courtney, Mary, Phyllis, Liz, Joe, Indra, Ally, Marjorie.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Ann, Lydia, Remi, Melba, Donna, Josh, Kim, Shane, Susan, Paula, John, Hannah.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN. Lt. Col. Harry Hughes.

✠ St Stephen's Anglican Church ✠

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Rectory (410) 665-1278
Web Address: ststeve.com

RECTOR: The Rev. Canon Guy P. Hawtin

VICAR: The Venerable Michael Kerouac

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Happy Riley
(410- 252-8674)

WEDDING CO-ORDINATORS: Happy Riley (410-252-8674)
Martha Miller (410-321-9038)

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00 am: Said Eucharist

9.15 am: Sung Eucharist (*with Nursery & Church School*)

11.00 am: Choral Mattins (*1st Sunday: Choral Eucharist*)

6.00 pm: Choral Evensong (*1st Sunday only*)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6.00 pm: Evening Prayer

Friday Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5.00 pm: Family Eucharist.

**COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER EASTER and GREGORY
OF NAZIANZUS**

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life; Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

Book of Common Prayer Page 171

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like thy bishop Gregory of Nazianzus, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who livest and reignest for ever and ever.

AMEN

Return Service Requested

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